

LIVE EXPORT — FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POLICY

**61. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Premier:**

I refer to the Prime Minister's visit to Perth this week and the Premier's personal address to the federal cabinet.

- (1) Did the Premier make representation on behalf of Western Australian farmers to the Prime Minister or the federal cabinet about the federal Labor government's plan to phase out live export?
- (2) Has the Prime Minister, the one the Premier claims "gets WA", finally listened to the concerns of Western Australians when it comes to this issue?

**Mr R.H. COOK replied:**

- (1)–(2) An interesting statistic has been brought to my attention. Of the 18 questions that the opposition asked last week, six—that is one-third of them—had to do with federal government policy matters, and it is thus this week as well. In relation to this question, which is also about federal policy matters, obviously I will not discuss with anyone what I discussed with the federal cabinet. What goes on in the cabinet room stays in the cabinet room. That is the nature of cabinet. Therefore, no, I will not tell the member whether I talked about those matters. What I did in broad terms, however, was to talk about the important role of the Albanese government in assisting us to create great Western Australian jobs, continue to diversify our economy and support us in growing our renewable energy and energy transition future. I talked about the great support that we are getting from the Albanese government, particularly around the Pilbara hydrogen hub, for instance. It is a \$140 million joint-funded program to continue to take Western Australia on the energy-transition future, creating great Western Australian jobs and making sure that Western Australia remains the engine room of the nation's economy.